

THE MEXICAN WAR.

derstood my colleague, (Mr. McLeary), that he was the cause of the annexation of Texas. But such is not the fact. Although Mexico recalled her minister, and talked of war, yet, when first applied to, she consented to receive a "*commissaire*" to adjust that difficulty by treaty; and her minister, in a letter to our consul, Mr. Black, dated October 31, 1845, informed him "that the Government of Mexico had given its orders for the purpose of *suspending any act of hostility against the United States, and instituting a defensive* awaiting the issue of the proposed negotiation."

At this period Texas was annexed, but war did not exist. Has Mexico performed her pledge? I regret to say we never gave her the opportunity. No "*commissaire*" was ever sent. The President sent a "*minister*," which was not within the terms of her agreement. And again: the War Department, under Taylor, July 8, 1845, informed the Secretary of State, "that the Government of Mexico had instructed him to avoid any act of aggression, and to maintain the relations of *peace* continued." I urge these facts as concludingly proving that the nations were still at peace, and were so regarded by the President.

ing territory, or whether Virginia would therefore surrender her jurisdiction over it? Yet I affirm that such a two-pronged question was not asked, and that the President was just as efficient in fixing the boundary of Maryland as he was in establishing that of Texas.

My honorable colleague (Mr. McCLANE) has, however, created a new fact, which he thinks "settles the question at once." He says:

"A reference to this act of admission of the State of Texas (December 29, 1845) will show that it was the State of Texas that was admitted, with a constitution already formed, affirming the sovereignty of the United States, and that the boundary was not the subject of controversy, and that the boundary between the Rio Grande and with such boundary she was admitted *State to the Union*."

I confess, sir, I heard that statement with great surprise, and that such an important fact should have been entirely overlooked. In all the discussions and newspaper controversies on this subject I had never seen or heard such a triumphant justification of the President. I at once determined, if it could be proved, that the President had admitted Texas, with a boundary *defined*, and that boundary "the Rio Grande," I would, at least, practice the virtue of magnanimity, by declining to

By what right did he capture a city within the limits of a sovereign State of this Union? By what right did he take military possession of New Mexico, whose capital was under our protection? By what right did he, "as conqueror," establish a temporary Government within the limits of Texas? Why, sir, as to the gallantry and glory of the exploit, he might, with a small additional force, have marched through my district and captured the city of Fredericks, or Hagerstown, or Cumberland, and it would have formed just as fit a subject for "congratulation" as the capture of Santa Fe, the Rio Grande be the boundary of Texas.

welfare. In that negotiation Mexico showed a desire for peace. She offered as indemnity, and for a consideration, to cede to us all territory north of the 37th degree of latitude, embracing about 300,000 square miles, and including the Bay of San Francisco, which our Government so much desired. It is true

But what further satisfaction of our injured honor can be obtained? Surely not pecuniary satisfaction or land. The what else can be had? The glories of the battle field are no longer possible, because there are no armies to be conquered.

measures for establishing clothing depots in Mexico, and to the general depot at Vera Cruz, at such place, or may be designated by the Major General Commanding. By order:
 R. JONES, Adjutant General

VIII. The Quartermaster's Department will take measures for establishing clothing depots in Mexico, as to the general depot at Vera Cruz, at such place, or places, may be designated by the Major General Commanding. By order :
 R. JONES, Adjutant General

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